Siphon end (36) is preferably placed within about 1 and 10 mm of the print site or a reaction/binding site. The siphon end may be associated with the printhead to maintain this spacing and move with the printhead to successive sample sites. Alternately, siphon end (36) may remain stationary as long as it is downwind of gas flow within the production environment from the reaction/printing site.

[0029] Siphon end (36) is preferably relatively small in order to minimize air disturbances in the sampling environment. It may have an outer diameter of between about 0.125 and 0.25 inch with an inner diameter between about 0.0625 and 0.125. A typical volume of sample it will obtain may be between about 5 liters/minute and 20 liters/minute.

[0030] A system advantageously used in connection with the present invention is described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/017107 (attorney docket number 10004452, titled "Printhead Fluid Supply System,") filed on even date herewith. Further chemical array printing system features advantageously used in connection with the present system are described in the references cited therein, including U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/150,504 titled, "Method and Apparatus for Making Nucleic Acid Arrays;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/300,589 titled, "Method of Performing Array-Based Hybridization Assays Using Thermal Inkjet Deposition of Sample Fluids;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/846,474 titled "Error Detection In Chemical Array Fabrication"; and U.S. Patent Nos. 6,242,266 and 6,180,351. Other components of array printing systems which may be adapted for use with the present invention include U.S. Patent Nos: 4,877,745; 5,338,688; 5,474,796; 5,449,754; 5,658,802 and 5,700,637.